

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Frederick County Agency Updates for June 4, 2020

Frederick, MD - June 4, 2020

County Executive:

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner today announced key improvements in several key health measures related to COVID-19. The rate of people testing positive for COVID-19 has dropped to 8.4%, below the statewide average. Hospital statistics have significantly improved, with declines in overall hospitalizations, intensive care unit beds, and acute care bed counts. Results from nursing home staff and residents are showing lower infection rates than anticipated, including one that had no positive cases. The number of calls to EMS calls for COVID-positive patients has dropped; six of the last seven days involved zero COVID-patients.

As a result of improving health metrics, Executive Gardner announced that most non-essential businesses may reopen to the general public beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday, June 5. With the signing of Executive Order 03-2020, Frederick County will implement Stage 2 of the Governor's Roadmap to Recovery plan. Some specific closures remain in place, as outlined in the Governor's Executive Order. As of 5 p.m. on June 5, the following will be authorized in Frederick County, with limitations:

- Non-essential businesses —Businesses may open at 50% capacity. Face coverings must be used by anyone who interacts with others, including customers, clients, and co-workers. Physical distancing of 6 feet between people is encouraged.
- Personal services Operations may resume at 50% capacity, by appointment only. Additional cleaning and sanitation are required. Face coverings are required for anyone over the age of 2.

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Frederick County Government will continue to provide essential services in modified manners. County buildings will not re-open to the public at this time.

"We are not out of the woods yet," Executive Gardner said. "By wearing masks and physically distancing ourselves, we are protecting our community. Public health remains our shared goal."

Health Department:

The Health Department is now reporting that 2096 (+33 in 24hrs) residents have tested positive for COVID-19, 112 (+0 in 24hrs) people have died, and 1361 (+39 in 24hrs) people have been released from isolation. For more statistics, please visit http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/COVIDstats.

Office of Economic Development:

Jump Start Grant Applications Accepted through Friday June 5, 2020

Jump Start grants are designed to assist small for-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations that experienced financial loss caused by the coronavirus.

The Frederick County Jump Start Grants Program offers three grant opportunities:

- Full-time Farmer Grants \$6,000 in one-time funds to qualifying full-time farmers. Full-time farmers qualify if they earned the majority of their gross income (51% or greater) from farming over the past two years.
- Small Business Grants \$10,000 in one-time funds for businesses with physical commercial space and with 10-50 employees, full or part-time. Businesses can be for-profit or nonprofit;
- Micro Business Grants \$3,300 in one-time funds for businesses with up to nine employees. Employees can be W-2 or 1099 employees of a for-profit or nonprofit business, including sole proprietors. Micro businesses must have physical commercial space to qualify.

Applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Friday, June 5.

Businesses must be located in Frederick County, or have more than 50% of employees or gross sales at their Frederick County location; employ 50 or fewer full-time-equivalent employees; and have incurred financial losses as a result of the public emergency. Applications for the Jump Start Grants must be made online at FrederickCountyMD.gov/JumpStart. The website also provides eligibility requirements, application instructions, and answers to frequently asked questions.

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For more information:

Frederick County residents can call 866-411-6803 to reach our local 211 center with general questions about coronavirus or COVID19.

Accurate COVID-19 information is critical to the community. For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- Frederick City Government: //cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19
- Frederick County Government: <u>www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/coronavirus</u>
- Frederick County Health Department: health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): <u>coronavirus.maryland.gov</u>
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): coronavirus.gov

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